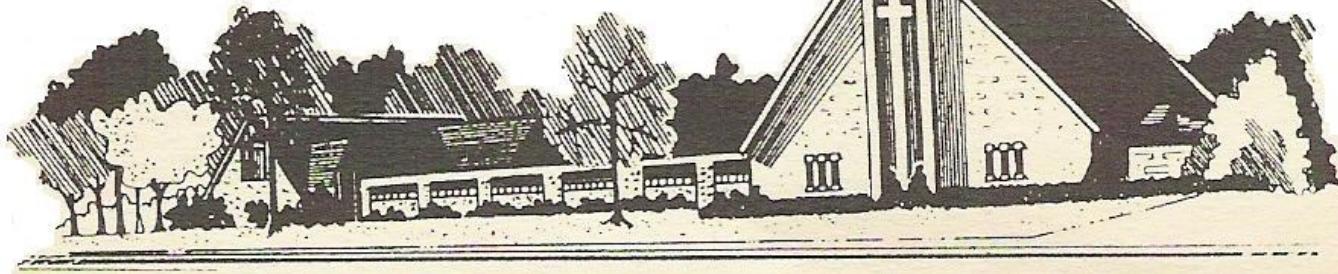
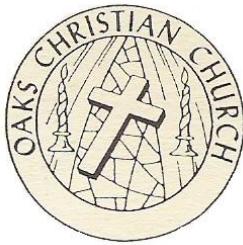


# OAKS NOTES



Oaks Christian Church is a family church that loves to share God's word, God's Love, and God's fellowship with the world. We are a church in the near inner loop that strives to be a helpful part of the community. We are about Deep Christian spirituality, a true community and a passion for Justice. We celebrate communion every Sunday service and all who believe are welcome to receive.



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## A Note from Pastor Don



When I was a kid, my parents told me that if I ever snuck out from my room on Christmas Eve to see Santa, he wouldn't bring me my presents! I don't know why they told me that,

but I was always scared to try to see Santa that night. If I did, I thought he might not leave me anything. I wanted to see Him so very very bad though!

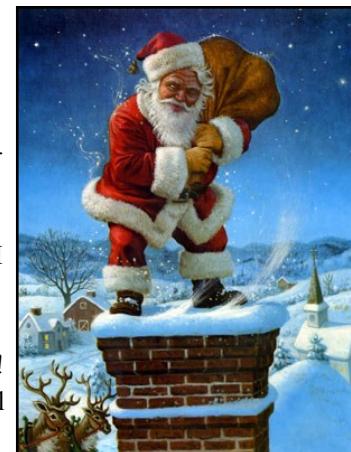
Well one Christmas Eve, when I was probably about 6 or 7 years old, I was put to the test. I don't know if I was asleep or just getting there, but all of a sudden, there were all kinds of bells banging on the roof, tons of them. I just knew it was Santa's reindeer. I can still hear them today. I sat straight up. I wanted to get up and run through the den. I heard clumsy movement through the house. I even heard a muffled ho-ho-ho! I wanted to go see him. I was trying to decide what to do.

The next thing I knew, it was Christmas morning. (I guess I fell asleep.) When we woke, we ran to the tree, but something was a little different. The screen was knocked off the fire place and there were big foot prints coming from the ashes that led toward the tree. He had really been there! He had made a mess through the house!

My mom and dad always had a way of making Santa come alive. Our spiritual

Father in Heaven has a way of making Christmas come alive, too! Only instead of telling us to stay in our rooms and hide our eyes, God the Father desperately encourages us to come out and see. He tells us if we do, we will see the footprints of Jesus everywhere we look, not just in a manger. We will hear His voice telling us how much He loves us and why He came, and not just through the bells and songs of the season. That Christmas was so real to me, because I saw and heard things that made my heart pound! Santa had been on my roof and in my house! I knew Christmas was for real.

This year, Christmas can be so real to us... it can be different! This year, I pray that our hearts will pound! But we will have to allow Jesus



to come alive and live in our hearts. We will have to look at Him as more than a figure in our nativity or the one we talk about in a Christmas sermon! Jesus is more than footprints and sounds. He is the One who has come into this world and can

# FAMILY FESTIVAL IS THIS WEEKEND!

## Oaks holds free Christmas event for the community

Don't forget to bring your family out this weekend for some Christmas fun. We'll enjoy fellowship, food, and crafts together. And at the end of the night, church members, along with Boy Scout Troop 879, will take part in a live nativity scene outside. Don't miss it!



*christmas*  
**Family Festival**

*Oaks invites you and your family to join us on the  
evening of December 14th for a Christmas celebration!*

**Light dinner at 5**  
**Christmas Ornaments at 6**  
**Live Nativity Scene at 7**

## GIFTS FOR STEVENS

If you signed up to donate gifts to students at Stevens Elementary, don't forget to bring them by this Sunday. Gifts will be delivered next week. Thank you for your participation. The gifts will be greatly appreciated by the families receiving them.



## CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE

On the eve of Christ's birth, we like to gather for a service of anticipation, praise and song. Join us at 6:30 as we sing our favorite Christmas carols and light candles in celebration of our savior! Feel free to bring any family or friends whom you might be hosting for the holiday. The service is a beautiful tradition here at the Oaks, and



# December 2014

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2 CWF @ 10 am; Tupperware @ 6 pm; Girl Scouts @ 6:30;	3 Handbells @ 6 pm Choir @ 7 pm	4	5 Boy Scouts @ 7:30 Renovada Bible Study @ 7:30	6
7 Sunday School @ 9:30 am; Worship @ 10:45; Board Mtg.	8	9 Prayer Circ. @ 9:30; CWF @ 10 am; Tupperware @ 6 pm;	10 Handbells @ 6 pm Choir @ 7 pm	11	12 Boy Scouts @ 7:30 Renovada Bible Study @ 7:30	13
14 Sun. School @ 9:30 am; Worship @ 10:45; Family Festival	15	16 CWF @ 10 am; Tupperware @ 6 pm; Girl Scouts @ 6:30;	17	18 PACE Prep Christmas Pageant @ 7 pm	19 Boy Scouts @ 7:30 Renovada Bible Study @ 7:30	20
21 Sunday School @ 9:30 am; Worship @ 10:45; Rita Barrow	22	23 Renovada Event in Kirchner @12-6 pm	24 Office Closed; Christmas Eve Service @ 6:30	25 <b>MERRY CHRISTMAS EVERYONE!</b>	26	27 Community Lunch @ 12-2 pm
28 Sunday School @ 9:30 am; Worship @ 10:45;	29	30 Tupperware @ 6 pm;	31			

## Happy December Birthdays:

- 12.12 John David Yates
- 12.13 Bethany Yates
- 12.14 Pat Hodde
- 12.16 Sue Harrison & Sara Newell
- 12.17 Lida Crump
- 12.24 Imogene Flott
- 12.29 Patti Swink

\*No December Anniversaries\*



## PACE PREP XMAS PAGEANT

Do you like your shepherds in bathrobes and your angels in sheets and tin foil? Well do I have a show for you! Come see our kids perform the Christmas story and sing along with the traditional carols at our first PACE Preparatory Academy Christmas Pageant. Join us on Thursday, December 18 at 7:00 in Kushner Hall for a truly "feel good" holiday show.

-Terri Corbitt



## From the Treasurer - Dorene Drake

Operating Account '14	2014 JULY	2014 AUGUST	2014 SEPT.
Deposits	\$11,166.00	\$8,996.16	\$10,611.71
Disbursements	\$(11,909.71)	\$7,814.99	\$10,705.47
Difference	\$(743.71)	\$1,181.17	\$93.76

Oaks Christian Church

*Disciples of Christ*

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**THANKS FOR THE COOKIES, CWF!**

